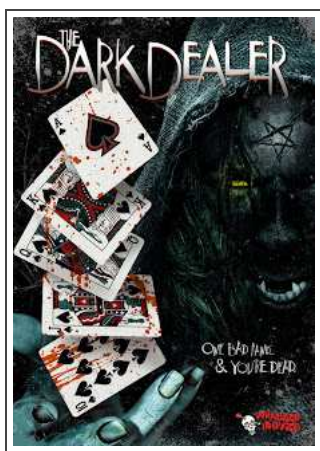




MAY 26, 2013

## REVIEW: THE DARK DEALER



Finally debuting on DVD after its long (and probably unnoticed) absence, 1995's *The Dark Dealer*, the adult version of Nickelodeon's popular "Are You Afraid of the Dark?", is now here. Directed by Tom Alexander and Wyn Winberg, *The Dark Dealer* is an anthology horror featuring glowing orbs, bulky and suited monsters, and ghosts of very spiteful blues men.

It all begins with a young teen running in terror from a large, flashing orb-thing straight from *Spencer Gifts*. The boy luckily dodges into a room and stumbles across a poker game filled with a shady cast of characters. The boy takes a seat and listens as each poker player unfolds his own story, laying down the events which led them to their seat at the table.



From two unlucky thieves using the wrong old man's apartment to hide from the law, to an overambitious entertainment lawyer stealing an old forgotten black musician's songs to hit it big, to the final and wraparound story featuring orbs, drugs, and crack dens, *The Dark Dealer* unfolds with the same kind of overly cheesy and EC-comic-book style as its source of inspiration, *Creepshow*. And since the film was made in 1995, there is no garish and boring CGI to offend the eye - it's all practical here, baby. Rubber faces, white face make-up, and all the screaming skeletons money can buy.

Quite obviously, *The Dark Dealer* is no *Creepshow*. It's not even *Creepshow 2*. If it was, you would've heard of it already. (It's way better than *Creepshow 3*, but, so is bloody stool.) That doesn't mean, however, that it's not watchable...because it is. Released during the



Musings on the darker side of film, music, lit, art, and consumables. Highlights of the macabre. Collected ghost stories and urban legends. Real and nasty news stories plucked from the headlines. Occasional fiction by yours truly. Other oddities you'll have to see to believe.

If it's midnight, stop by. You never know what you'll find.



Equal parts celebration and condemnation of the worst horror and cult films ever made.

Pick a Flick...

READ...



Unheralded horror that deserves a second (or even first) look.

Read the Intro...

READ...

height of the direct-to-video movement, The Dark Dealer encompasses all you would expect from that era: corny gore, sex for no reason, and awful humor.



Fans of quirky and low budget horror will find something to enjoy, even though each story unfolds with the kind of tedious inevitability, with the main character receiving his just desserts served with a dash of irony, that Tales from the Crypt made famous. But in the interim, bodies transform with rubber intensity and claymation demons faces scream RIGHT AT YOU.

It's all in good fun, and you'll likely enjoy yourself.

Buy the film here (and watch out for flying soup ladles).



Films with less-than-stellar reputations are fairly and objectively defended.

Choose a Film...

READ...



Genre-blending original fiction by yours truly.

Choose Your Own Adventure...

READ...



A definitive list of found footage horror, from Area 51 to The Zombie Diaries.

Last updated 4/29/13.

### NEEDFUL THINGS



REVIEW: A HAUNTING AT SILVER FALLS  
Jordan (Alix Elizabeth Gitter) is going through a rather bad patch. After the untimely death of her father, she finds herself living ac...



SINISTER: THE "OTHER" SOUNDTRACK  
(Updated post with more specific information can be found here.) If you're reading this, it's because you have likely seen Si...



UNSUNG HORRORS: THE CALLER  
Every once in a while, a genuinely great horror movie—one that would rightfully be considered a classic, had it gotten more exposure and lov...



AN INTERVIEW WITH DAVID SCHMOELLER - PART 1: LITTLE MONSTERS  
Writer/director David Schmoeller might not be a household name—maybe not even for your most prolific of horror fans—but he's given us two u...



SHITTY FLICKS: THE AMITYVILLE HAUNTING  
Shitty Flicks is an ongoing column that celebrates the most hilariously incompetent, amusingly pedestrian, and mind-bogglingly stupid movies...

SHITTY FLICKS: SHARK ATTACK 3:

Posted by TEOS at 12:00 AM



Recommend this on Google

Labels: anthologies, horror movies, movie review, MVD, the dark dealer

### No comments:

### Post a Comment

Enter your comment...

Comment as: Google Account

Publish Preview

### Links to this post

Create a Link

Newer Post

Home

Older Post

Subscribe to: Post Comments (Atom)